

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 (3683.Palm.SG)

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow.

Claims 1-40 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, are presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

In Sections 2-6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-9, 12-15, 17-19, 23-31, 34-37, 39 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ogura et al. (6,189,056).

The Examiner stated:

3. As in claim 1, Ogura et al. teaches of a display module for a handheld computer, figure 1, and 7, comprising: a display housing, figure 7 item (display); a display incorporated into the display housing, figure 7 item (display); an interface housing, figure 3 item 10, figure 7 item (card connector); an interface configured to be removably coupled to the handheld computer, figure 7 item (card connector), the interface being incorporated into the interface housing, figure 3 item 10, figure 7 item (card connector); and a memory, figure 3 item 51C.

4. As in claim 19, Ogura et al. teach of an accessory module for a portable electronic device, figure 1 and 7, comprising: an accessory housing, figure 1 and 7; an interface for making electrical connection between the accessory module and a host device, figure 1 item 11; and, an interface housing for supporting the interface, figure 1 item 11, wherein, the interface housing is hinged to the accessory housing such that the interface housing can fold behind the accessory housing, figure 3 item 30, and the

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 (3683.Palm.SG)

interface housing can unfold to extend for insertion into an interface slot in a portable electronic device, figures 1-3 item 30.

5. As in claim 23, Ogura et al. teaches of a portable display module for coupling to a host device, comprising: a display housing, figure 1 item 20, figure 7 item (display); a display coupled to the display housing, figure 1 item 21, figure 7 item (display); an interface housing, figure 1 item 10; an interface configured to be removably coupled to the host device, the interface being incorporated into the interface housing, figure 1 item 11, figure 7 item (card connector); and, a memory, figure 2 item 65, figure 3 item 51C.

6. As in claims 2 and 24, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the memory includes Secure Digital (SD) memory, figure 3 item 51C and 51B, decoder with memory. As in claim 3 and 25, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the interface is configured to be coupled to a slot in a housing of the handheld computer, figure 3 item 11. As in claim 4 and 26, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the interface is configured to exchange data with a host device through electrical interconnects, figure 3 item 11. As in claim 5 and 27, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the interface is configured to exchange data with a host device through an optical data link, figure 2 item 71, inherent to interface application. As in claim 6 and 28, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the display module is powered by an internal battery, column 13 lines 17-22. As in claim 7 and 29, Ogura et al. teaches of wherein the display module is configured to receive power from a host device through the interface, figure 7 item (card connector). As in claim 8 and 30, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the display module is configured to be received by a host device when the interface housing is folded behind the display housing, figure 7. As in claim 12 and 34, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the display module further comprises a processing circuit selected from the group consisting of: ASIC, microcontroller, microprocessor, column 14 lines 45-55. As in claim 13 and 35, Ogura et al. teach of, further comprising at least one input/output device, figure 1 item 12. As in claim 14 and 36, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the at least one input/output device is selected from the group consisting of: touch screens, buttons, dials, switches, and electro-audio transducers, figure 1 items 100. As in claim 15 and 37, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the display module operates to display information when not coupled to a host device, figure 1 item 21. As in claim 17 and 39, Ogura et al. teach

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 (3683.Palm.SG)

of, further comprising a display controller for controlling the display, column 14 lines 45-55 or figure 1 item 63. As in claim 18 and 40, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the memory is configured to store and retain data customized to the user, figure 2 item 65 and 66. As in claim 21, Ogura et al. teach of, wherein the hinge includes a plurality of detents, figure 1 item 11. As in claim 22, Ogura et al. teach of, wherein the interface housing is configured to fit a secure digital (SD) slot, figure 3 item 51C and 51B.

Also, in Sections 7-11, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 10, 11, 16, 19, 20, 23, 32, 33, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kotchick et al. (2003/0016327). The Examiner stated:

8. As in claim 1, Kotchick et al. teaches of a display module for a handheld computer, paragraphs 32 and 33, comprising; a display housing, figure 3b item 852; a display incorporated into the display housing, figure 8a item 800; an interface housing, figure 3a item 800, figure 8b item 860; an interface configured to be removably coupled to the handheld computer, figure 8a item 810, figure 8b item 862, the interface being incorporated in the interface housing, figure 8a item 820; and, a memory, figure 8b 852, paragraph 37. Wherein figures 8a, b, and c represent one of the devices discussed in paragraph 33, including a fully functional display module, wherein as is well known includes memory buffers and driver circuitry.

9. As in claim 19, Kotchick et al. teaches of an accessory module for a portable electronic device, figure 8a item 800, comprising: an accessory housing, figure 8 item 800; an interface for making electrical connection between the accessory module and a host device, figure 8 item 810; and, an interface housing for supporting the interface, figure 8 item 820, wherein, the interface housing is hinged to the accessory housing such that the interface housing can fold behind the accessory housing, paragraph 87, and the interface housing can unfold to extend for insertion into an interface slot in a portable electronic device, paragraph 87. Wherein the display module 800 of a PDA device is tiltably mounted in the electronic device, said tiltably language reading on the fold and unfold limitation.

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 (3683.Palm.SG)

10. As in claim 23, Kotchick et al. teaches of a portable display module for coupling to a host device, comprising: a display housing, figure 8b item 852; a display coupled to the display housing, figure 8a item 800; an interface housing, figure 8a item 810; and interface configured to be removably coupled to the host device, the interface being incorporated into the interface housing, figure 8a items 810 and 820; and, a memory, figure 8b 852, paragraph 37. Wherein figures 8a, b, and c represent on of the devices discussed in paragraph 33, including a fully functional display module, wherein as is well known includes memory buffers and driver circuitry.

11. As in claim 10, 16, 20, 32, and 38, Kotchick teaches of, wherein the host device is selected from the group consisting of: mobile telephone, game, toy, e-book, electronic projection device, camera, key fob or pendant, MP3 player, control for home, control for vehicle, remote control for entertainment system, digital sports assistant, pedometer, information technology equipment, and watch, figures 4a, b, c, d, column paragraph 33. As in claim 11 and 33, Ogura et al. teaches of, wherein the host device is a wearable device, figure 4d, paragraph 33.

With regard to independent claim 1, independent claim 1 recites "an interface configured to be removably coupled to a handheld computer, the interface being incorporated into the interface housing." Ogura et al. does not disclose or teach an interface that is configured for interfacing a handheld computer. Ogura et al. discloses an information processing terminal having a form factor defined by PCMCIA or JEIDA or other card and adapters for personal computers. Handheld computers often are configured with their own type of expansion slot which has a form factor that is conventionally much smaller than the form factor for a PCMCIA or other PC type adapter card. Accordingly, there is no teaching or disclosure in Ogura et al. for an interface on an electronic module where the interface is configured to be removably coupled to a handheld computer. The electronic information processing terminal of Ogura et al. is a form factor which is to be used with a PC card slot. Independent claim 1 also recites that "the display is smaller than the display of the handheld computer." Ogura et al. discloses an information processing terminal which appears to be configured to be approximately the size of a handheld computer and having a display that is approximately the size of the display of a handheld

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 (3683.Palm.SG)

computer. Accordingly, Ogura et al. does not disclose or teach an electronic module that has a display which is smaller than a display of the handheld computer. Therefore, all of the elements of independent claim 1 are not disclosed or taught by Ogura et al.

With respect to the Kotchick et al. reference, Kotchick et al. does not disclose or teach an electronic module having "a processor coupled to the display" and "a power supply coupled to the processor, among other limitations." The replaceable display modules of Kotchick et al. are merely elements of a larger computing device which may be replaced to replace non-functioning displays, larger, displays or higher-end displays. The replaceable display modules are not configured with processors or their own power supply and are not configured to perform as independent electronic modules as the modules having the elements recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, Kotchick et al. does not disclose, or teach all the elements recited in independent claim 1.

For the reasons stated above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claim 1 and its dependent claims are therefore allowable.

With regard to independent claim 19, independent claim 19 recites an accessory module for a handheld electronic device. Independent claim 19 also recites "the interface housing is hinged to the accessory housing such that the interface housing can fold behind the accessory housing, the interface housing can unfold to extend for insertion into an interface slot in the handheld electronic device, and the interface can be used to couple to the host device or in the folded position." Ogura et al. does not disclose an accessory module for a handheld electronic device as the information processing unit in Ogura et al. itself is a handheld electronic device. Therefore, the device and the information processing unit in Ogura et al. cannot be an accessory module for a handheld electronic device. Although, Ogura et al. does disclose an interface housing that is hinged to an accessory housing, Ogura et al. does not disclose that the interface housing can unfold to extend for insertion into an interface slot in a handheld electronic device. Further, Ogura et al. does not disclose that the interface can be used to couple to the host device when in the folded position. As shown in the figures of Ogura et al., the interface disclosed in

Atty. Dkt. No. C 35451-0146 (3683.Palm.SG)

Ogura et al. is configured only to be inserted into a slot of a personal computer and not for use when in a folded position. Further, Ogura et al. does not disclose in Fig. 7 that the interface can be folded behind the display. In fact, as the Examiner has asserted, if one looks at the hinges for the device disclosed in Fig. 7, it would appear that the hinges would not allow the card connector to be folded behind the display, but only that the card connector folded out flat so that the display and keyboard are aligned in a single plane. Thus, Ogura et al. does not disclose or teach all of the elements recited in independent claim 19.

As similarly discussed with regard to independent claim 1, Kotchick et al. does not disclose or teach an accessory module or a handheld electronic device. In particular, Kotchick et al. does not disclose or teach an accessory module having a processor, as recited in independent claim 19. The replaceable displays of Kotchick et al. are simply display modules and not processing modules. Further, Kotchick et al. does not disclose or teach an interface that is foldable and can be inserted into an interface slot position and coupled to a host device when the interface is in a folded position. Therefore, neither Ogura et al. nor Kotchick et al. disclose or teach all of the elements recited in independent claim 19.

Accordingly, independent claim 19 and its dependent claims are therefore allowable.

With regard to independent claim 23, independent claim 23 recites: "a portable electronic module for coupling to a host handheld device." Ogura et al. does not disclose or teach an electronic module that is coupled to a host handheld device. The information processing unit of Ogura et al. is a handheld device that is configured to be coupled to a personal computer. The information processing unit of claim 23 is not a portable electronic module that is configured to couple to a handheld device because the information processing unit disclosed in Ogura et al. is itself a handheld device. Thus, not only does Ogura et al. fail to teach a portable electronic module coupling to a host handheld device, Ogura et al. also fails to provide any motivation for a portable electronic module that couples to a handheld device, because it was seen having the information processing unit of Ogura et al. provided sufficient portability. However, the Applicants have contemplated further use for having a portable electronic display module that

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 3683.Palm.SG)

couples to handheld device, which are not disclosed, taught, suggested or provide any motivation for in Ogura et al. Therefore, Ogura et al. does not disclose or teach all the elements recited in independent claim 23.

Kotchick et al. does not disclose "a portable electronic module for coupling to a host handheld device." Further, Kotchick et al. does not disclose a portable electronic module having "a processor coupled to the interface and the display," and "a power supply coupled to the processor." Kotchick et al. only discloses a replaceable display and modules which cannot include their own processor or power supply as discussed with respect to claims 1 and 19 above. Therefore, Kotchick et al. fails to disclose all the elements recited in independent claim 23.

For the reasons above, independent claim 23 and its dependent claims are therefore allowable.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-40 are now pending in this application.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any over payment, to Deposit Account No. 001-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0146 (3683.Pt lm.SG)

Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

September 30, 2003

By

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